Development of Flower Plants, Medicinal Plants and Herbs in Andhra Pradesh

1595. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Central Government's consideration to conduct field survey in Andhra Pradesh forests for the development of flower plants, medicinal plants and herbs; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Botanical Survey of India has been conducting floristic surveys on a continuing basis. Hitherto 68 surveys including ethnobotanical studies in the tribal areas of 10 districts of Andhra Pradesh have been conducted. Herbarium specimens of plants of Andhra Pradesh preserved in the herbarium at Coimbatore amounts to 20,000 specimens. Total number of species of plants collected amounts to 2,000 species. Economic and medicinal plants amount to 500 species.

Disbursement of Loans in Andhra Pradesh

1596. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of Andhra Pradesh in the total loan disbursements by nationalised banks and public financial institutions during the past three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that share of Andhra Pradesh is very low; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The share of Andhra Pradesh in total outstanding advances of public sector banks at the end of December 1985, December, 1986 and December, 1987 was 6.9 per cent, 7.4 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively. In the total amount disbursed by all financial institutions during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87, the share of Andhra Pradesh was 9.2 per cent, 8.3 per cent and 7.7 per cent respectively. With a view to encouraging industrialisation AFIs provide asistance on concessional terms to units set up in the backward areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Practice of Female infanticide in Rajasthan

1597. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in certain parts of Rajasthan there is a practice of female infanticide;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report and demand of a CBI probe into the allegation against one Brijendra Singh of Bayana in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, whether Government have called for full facts from Rajasthan Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Government of Rajasthan have informed that there are no reports with the State Government about practice of female infanticide.

(b) to (d) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the State Government have informed that on 13th October, 1988 they appointed the Commissioner, Jaipur Division to enquire into the allegation of female infanticide in the family of Shri Brijendra Singh, MLA, and submit his report by 31st December, 1988. The State Government have further informed that in the meantime the High Court of Rajasthan passed Order on 31st October, 1988 directing the State Government to register a criminal case and to get it investigated by a police officer not below the rank of Dy. Inspector-General. The report and the file of investigation are to be furnished to Court of Competent jurisdiction before 31st December 1988. Accordingly, a case has been registered at Police Station Bayana (Bharatpur) under Section 302/313 Indian Penal Code and Section 16 Bonded Labour System Abolition Act and the DIG, Crime (CID) appointed to conduct the investigation.

Import of Raw Silk from China

1598. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have imported raw silk from China during 1988;

(b) if so, what is the quantity so imported and the distribution thereof among the weavers, Statewise:

(c) whether Government have any assessment of annual requirement;

(d) if so, what is the assessed annual requirement of raw silk; and

(e) how the requirement is being met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) During the year 1988, the Government has imported a total quantity of 36 tonnes of raw silk from China. The Statewise distribution of imported raw silk to state agencies/weavers' societies is as under:

State	Raw Silk Qty. (Tonnes)
Uttar Pradesh . . .	18.90
Tamil Nadu	8.90
Karnataka	4.25
Madhya Pradesh . . .	1.50
Andhra Pradesh . .	1.45
Others	1.00
	36.00

(c) to (e) The annual requirement of imported silk is approximately 2300—2500 tonnes. This annual requirement has been noted in the Trade Protocol signed with China for 1988-89. Initially, a provision of US $ 40 million has been made in the Trade Protocol with China.

Setting up of currency note printing press at Shalboni in West Bengal

1599. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are considering the project report for setting up the currency note printing press at Shalboni, West Bengal;

(b) if so, what are the details of the project report; and

(c) what decision Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.